

Europe Targets
Unvaccinated
In Virus Spike

Making Life Harder in
Effort to Push Shots

By JASON HOROWITZ

ROME — As temperatures drop and coronavirus infections spike across Europe, some countries are introducing increasingly targeted restrictions against the unvaccinated who are driving another wave of contagion and putting economic recoveries, public health and an eventual return to prepandemic freedoms at risk.

On Monday, Austria set a new bar for such measures in the West. Facing a 134 percent increase in cases in the last two weeks, the Austrian government cracked down on its unvaccinated population over the age of 12, restricting their movement to traveling for work, school, buying groceries and medical care.

“Our task as the federal government is to protect the people of Austria,” Chancellor Alexander Schallenberg told a news conference on Sunday. “We are fulfilling this responsibility.”

Austria’s step fit a pattern of governments across Europe passing rules to make life harder for the unvaccinated, with the goal of motivating people to get a shot. Taken together, the measures are a bleak and clear sign that a virus that however fleetingly seemed a piece of European history was still very much part of its present and future.

The World Health Organization warned recently that Europe was once again the epicenter of the pandemic and that half a million people on the continent could die from Covid in the next few months. Europe reported a 10 percent increase in deaths and a 7 percent increase in new infections in the first week of November, compared with the previous week.

Hospitalizations and deaths were mostly in Eastern Europe, but the new wave threatened the economic recoveries and Christmas vacations across the continent. A return to normalcy predicated on the success of vaccination campaigns was being increasingly threatened by the unvaccinated who offered the virus room to run.

Continued on Page A11



JAN HETFLAISCH/GETTY IMAGES

Monitoring lockdown compliance in Innsbruck, Austria.



ADRIA MALCOLM FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

The scene of a homicide in Albuquerque this year. A rise in murders has plagued big cities, small towns, even remote rural areas.

Ukraine Fight
Over Groceries
Ignites a Battle

By ANDREW E. KRAMER

HRANITNE, Ukraine — Artillery shells fired by Russian-backed separatists shrieked into this small town deep in the flatlands of eastern Ukraine, shearing branches from trees, scooping out craters, blowing up six houses and killing one Ukrainian soldier.

It was an all-too-common response to the smallest of provocations — a dispute over grocery shopping for a hundred or so people living in the buffer zone between the separatists and Ukrainian government forces. But in the hair-trigger state of the Ukraine war, minor episodes can grow into full-fledged battles.

Hunkered down in a bunker, the Ukrainian commander, Major Oleksandr Sak, requested a counterstrike from a sophisticated new weapon in Ukraine’s arsenal, a Turkish-made Bayraktar TB2 armed drone.

Deployed for the first time in combat by Ukraine and provided by a country that is a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the drone hit a howitzer operated by the separatists. Things quickly escalated.

Across the border, Russia scrambled jets. The next day, Russian tanks mounted on rail cars rumbled toward the Ukrainian border. Diplomacy in Berlin, Moscow and Washington went into

Continued on Page A8

Four Lives Lost: Inside a Surging Homicide Rate

This article is by Julie Bosman, Mitch Smith, Neil MacFarquhar, Tim Arango and Chloe Reynolds.

A hot dog vendor walking out of a downtown ballpark, where gunfire pierced the night after the home team won a game. A woman whose quarrel with a trusted friend took a heartbreaking turn. A young man caught up in drugs passing through a shabby motel. A new mother shot by a stranger in a random act of extreme violence.

Each one of these scenes was fatal, and each became a tragic data point in a surge in homicides that has swept across the country, touching not only the largest cities in America but suburbs, small

Pandemic Factors Into
Increase in Drug Use
and Gun Buying

towns and even remote rural places that rarely see a murder.

On a national scale, the murder rate is still far below its height in the 1990s, and in some places the spike seen in 2020, when murders rose by almost 30 percent, has already begun to slow. Homicides also constitute a tiny percent of overall major crime, which last year continued to drop as theft and burglaries fell.

But in many large cities — in-

cluding Atlanta, Chicago and Philadelphia — the number of homicides this year is on track to surpass last year, leaving the public unnerved and injecting the politics of crime into local elections around the country, as various state and mayoral candidates promise they can restore a greater sense of safety. And although some places, including New York City and Dallas, have seen slight improvement this year, many others have not. Las Vegas, Minneapolis, Nashville and Los Angeles have all seen year-to-date increases.

This wave has also touched smaller cities and rural towns where police departments don’t have homicide units and outside

Continued on Page A18



ADAM PEREZ FOR THE NEW YORK TIMES

Football Success for a School for the Deaf

Unbeaten in 11 games, a small Southern California high school is generating excitement. Page A12.

Rats! Jobs! Parking! Nightlife!
A Clash Over Outdoor Dining

By NICOLE HONG

It was an unexpectedly raucous event. About 100 people packed a hearing in Manhattan’s West Village in the summer, eager to vent about an issue dividing neighborhoods across New York City.

The matter at hand: outdoor dining.

As city officials presented a plan to make it permanent, residents waved matching signs with slogans like “Outdoor Dining Is Home Invasion.” They loudly booed an official who called it a huge success. When another official said New York’s sidewalks have become some of the best dining options in the world, the audi-

ence screamed, “Rats!”

“We’re just absolutely going out of our minds,” one resident said, to applause, “with the emotional distress of every kind of quality-of-life issue you can imagine.”

The fight in the West Village signals the challenges ahead for city officials as they seize on an opportunity to codify one of the most transformative changes to the urban streetscape in recent decades. Starting later this month, officials will host citywide hearings for residents to say what they believe outdoor dining should look like in a post-pandemic

Continued on Page A21

Judge Rules for Sandy Hook Families Over Far-Right Broadcaster

By ELIZABETH WILLIAMSON

WASHINGTON — A state court in Connecticut granted a sweeping victory to the families of eight people killed in a 2012 mass shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Conn., who had sued the far-right broadcaster

and conspiracy theorist Alex Jones and his Infowars media outlet for defamation.

The judge ruled on Monday that because Mr. Jones had refused to turn over documents ordered by the courts, including financial records, he was liable by default. The decision, combined with previous rulings in Texas in late Sep-

tember, means Mr. Jones has lost all the defamation lawsuits filed against him by the families of 10 victims.

Lawyers for Mr. Jones said he would appeal.

Mr. Jones for years spread bogus theories that the shooting that killed 20 first graders and six educators was part of a government-

led plot to confiscate Americans’ firearms and that the victims’ families were “actors” in the scheme. People who believed those false claims accosted the families on the street and at events honoring their slain loved ones, abused them online, con-

Continued on Page A16



NATIONAL A12-21

Bannon Turns Himself In

Stephen K. Bannon surrendered and appeared in federal court to face contempt of Congress charges. PAGE A16

No New Drilling at Tribal Site

President Biden plans to block new oil and gas leases near Chaco Canyon in New Mexico. PAGE A15

INTERNATIONAL A4-11

Virtual U.S.-China Summit

U.S. officials said a meeting of President Biden and Xi Jinping was meant to reassure both sides amid military and economic tensions. PAGE A10

Turning Diapers Into Fuel

Waste from adult diapers is growing by tens of thousands of tons a year in Japan. One town may have a solution: recycle it into fuel pellets. PAGE A4

U.S. Journalist Is Freed

Danny Fenster, who was detained while trying to leave Myanmar in May, had been sentenced to 11 years in prison and was facing new charges. PAGE A9



SCIENCE TIMES D1-8

No Shot for Spot

Vaccines have been developed for cats and dogs, but inoculations aren’t necessary, experts have concluded. PAGE D1

Persuasive Lobbyists

Combat veterans pushing for legalization of psychedelic drugs have won some influential supporters. PAGE D1

BUSINESS B1-6

A Home for Covid Falsehoods

Wild and misleading statements about vaccines have spread on podcasts and the radio, even as some hosts die of virus complications. PAGE B1

SPORTS B7-9

Making a Hall of Fame Case

Minnie Miñoso, a Black Latino pioneer, had underrated stats and impact that may merit induction to Cooperstown, our columnist writes. PAGE B7

OPINION A22-23

Michelle Goldberg PAGE A23



ARTS C1-6

All the Right Dances

In a program of works featuring ballet stars and a youthful ensemble at New York City Center, Twyla Tharp merges the past with the present. PAGE C1

